### **City of Lynchburg Police Department**

# Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Newsletter Date Jan. 4, 2018

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For more information contact Officer Lee Hughes at

Lynchburg Police Department Community Action Team 905 Court Street Lynchburg, VA 24504

> Phone: 434-455-6144 lee.hughes@ lynchburgva.gov

# **Upcoming Events**

City Council Meeting: 1/9/2018 7:00PM

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: 1/15/2018

January Watch Meeting: 1/16/2018 at Discover Church,

located at 1030 McConville Road.

Topic: Church Security and Safety

City Council Meeting: 1/23/2017 7:00PM

"Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man."

~ Benjamin Franklin



#### Winter Woes and Crime Prevention

Winter is here and we are having some frosty mornings. We always see a rise in vehicle thefts during this time of year. People like to warm their vehicles up in the morning before work or school. Unfortunately, this may be an opportunity for someone to steal your car.

You never want to come back out to your car and find that it has been burglarized or stolen. Here are some tips to keep in mind to help prevent vehicle theft or burglary:

- Never leave a running vehicle unattended
- Always lock your doors and roll all windows up when you are not with your vehicle
- Never leave valuables in plain sight in your vehicle. If you can't take them with you, hide them out of sight prior to arriving at your next destination.
- Park your vehicle in a well lit area
- Remember to lock your tailgate and/or bed cover if you have a truck
- Get a prevention device for your vehicle. Some prevention devices are: audible alarms, steering wheel locks, Lojack, silent pager, passive immobilizer, and others.



# **Community Action Team Staff**

Community Action Team: (434) 455-6144, 455-6173, or 455-6070

- Sgt. Jeff Rater
- Officer L. Hughes
- Officer A. Khaja
- Officer J. Pavia
- Officer L. Rose
- Cynthia Kozerow (Crime Prevention Specialist)—(434) 455-6145
- Steven Wood (Community Services Coordinator)—(434) 455-6158



### Panhandling vs. Trespassing

Many of our neighborhood watch groups have had to deal with aggressive panhandlers over the last year. Increasingly courts are declining to charge and prosecute panhandling charges. Individuals can still be charged with trespass violations. Be sure that you tell the individual to leave, if they don't readily comply with your request, they can be charged with a trespass violation. Be sure to call **911** immediately.

You can also protect your private property by posting no trespass signs and completing an annual "Authorization to Enforce No Trespass Violations" with the Lynchburg Police Department. The forms are available online at:

www.lynchburgva.gov/authorization-enforce-tresspass-violations

Lynchburg City Code: Sec. 31-9. Designation of police to enforce trespass violations.

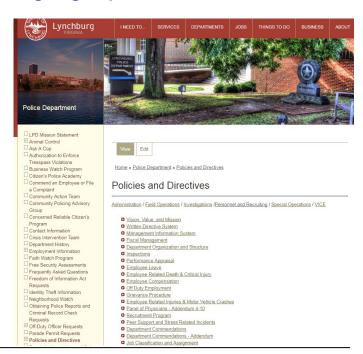
As authorized by Section 15.2-1717.1 of the Code of Virginia, any owner, lessee, custodian, or person lawfully in charge of real property, as those terms are used in Section 18.2-119 of the Code of Virginia, may, in writing, designate the police department as a "person lawfully in charge of the property" for the purpose of authorizing police officers to forbid another to go or remain upon the lands, buildings or premises as specified in the designation. Such designation shall include a description of the land(s), building(s) or premises to which it applies and shall be kept on file in the office of the chief of police or in such other location within the police department as the chief of police deems appropriate. (Ord. No. O-07-008, 1-09-07)



#### **Did You Know?**

Did you know that the Lynchburg Police Department's Policies and Directives are available online for you to review? In an effort to be open and transparent we began posting our policies and directives on the city website in 2016. You can find them here: http://www.lynchburgva.gov/policies-and-directives





# **Find LPD Online:**

www.lynchburgva.gov/police-department



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